

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 OIC-04 AID-20 EB-11 COME-00 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 SPC-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

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APPROVED BY IO/CMD:JWMCDONALD, JR.

NEA/RA - HMONTGOMERY

IO/OIC - FMCCORD

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R 062210Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECWA, OCON

SUBJECT: ECWA: CONTACT WITH SECRETARIAT AND FIRST PLENARY

REFL A) STATE A-10249; DEC. 14, 1973; B) BEIRUT A-223;

DEC. 27, 1973; C) USUN 320

1. APPRECIATE DESIGNATION OF FSO HARVEY T. CLEW AS LIAISON OFFICER WITH ECWA (ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR WESTERN ASIA). IN CONNECTION WITH REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON NEXT STEPS (REF AIRGRAM B), SUBJECT COVERED IN GENERAL IN RE AIRGRAM A. THUS NEED NOW IS FOR EMBASSY TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH KEY ECWA PERSONNEL AND MAKE THEM AWARE OF OUR INTEREST IN THEIR ACTIVITIES. MORE SPECIFICALLY, HOWEVER, NEED HAS ALREADY ARISEN TO DISCUSS WITH SECRETARIAT PLANS FOR ECWA'S FIRST PLENARY SESSION (REFTEL C).

2. RECOMMEND THAT SENIOR EMBASSY OFFICER JOIN CLEW AS
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SOON AS POSSIBLE IN COURTESY CALL ON ECWA'S EXECUTIVE

SECRETARY, MOHAMED SAID AL-ATTAR (RECENTLY YEMENI PERMREP TO UN). YOU SHOULD, IF IT SEEMS APPROPRIATE, EXPLAIN OUR OPPOSITION TO CREATION OF ECWA WAS BASED ON OUR SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT LEGALITY OF EXCLUSION FROM MEMBERSHIP OF ONE UN MEMBER IN REGION COVERED BY COMMISSION. THIS SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN AS CHANGING OUR SPECIAL INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT IN UN REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN

GENERAL. WE ARE, FOR EXAMPLE, MEMBER OF THREE OF OTHER REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AND OBSERVER TO FOURTH. WE HOPE TO HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE INTEREST IN ECWA. YOU MAY ALSO POINT OUT THAT, AS THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO UN'S BUDGET (FROM WHICH ECWA FUNDS COME), WE HAVE SPECIAL REASON TO KEEP INFORMED ON ALL UN ACTIVITIES.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH OUR GENERAL INTEREST IN ECWA, CLEW'S POSITION SHOULD BE EXPLAINED AS MEANS FOR US TO BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH ECWA AND SHARE INFORMATION IN AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. WE HOPE SECRETARIAT WILL BE WILLING FOR CLEW TO VISIT FROM TIME TO TIME, BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH SOME PERSONNEL AND RECEIVE ECWA DOCUMENTS (IN ENGLISH IF POSSIBLE).

4. PLEASE EXPLAIN TO AL-ATTAR WE HAVE HEARD ECWA PLANNING TO CALL ITS FIRST PLENARY SESSION SOON. IF IT IS AGREEABLE WITH COMMISSION, WE HOPE TO ATTEND AS OBSERVER. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING DETAILS ABOUT MEETING, HOW WE SHOULD OFFICIALLY INFORM SECRETARIAT OF OUR INTEREST IN ATTENDING, WHETHER ANY PROBLEMS FORESEEN IN GAINING OBSERVER STATUS AND ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT MIGHT BE USEFUL IN CONNECTION WITH PLENARY.

5. FYI: RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ECWA STATES "THE COMMISSION MAY INVITE ANY STATE MEMBER OF UN NOT A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONSULTATIVE CAPACITY IN ITS CONSIDERATION OF ANY MATTER OF PARTICULAR CONCERN TO THAT NON-MEMBER." THIS IS GENERALLY STANDARD LANGUAGE FOR ECOSOC AND ITS RELATED BODIES. NORMALLY ANY UN MEMBERS NOT A MEMBER OF AN ECOSOC-RELATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ORGANIZATION MAY SIT IN ON SESSIONS OF INTEREST. WE ASSUME ECWA SITUATION WILL BE SAME. END FYI. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE025086
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MLGREENE/DD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740251/aaaabvpl.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <02 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECWA: CONTACT WITH SECRETARIAT AND FIRST PLENARY
TAGS: EGEN, OCON, ECWA, (CLEW, HARVEY T)
To: BEIRUT
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005